

CONFIDENTIAL

14 September 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director, NPIC

SUBJECT : The NPIC Capability for Utilizing the DOD
Data Marking System

1. In response to your information concerning the possibility of A5C material being received by the NPIC in the near future, a preliminary investigation was made by the Plans and Development Staff as to our capabilities of reading the binary data block. At present, the Center does not have a capability either in-house or under development to provide semiautomatic or automatic readout of the binary data.

25X1A 2. Currently under consideration is a manual keyboard entry device proposed by [redacted]. This device will allow the operator to duplicate on a keyboard the binary dot pattern as viewed on the photograph and observe the correct decimal value on a visual display unit. [redacted] currently has a working prototype available which was demonstrated at the NPIC on 3 September 1964. To date, delivery and pricing information on the production version of this unit is not available. It is intended that the Center purchase several of the units from [redacted] as soon as they market it. This will provide an emergency backup to human translation until such time as an automatic data block reader becomes available, and the requirement for such a device is established.

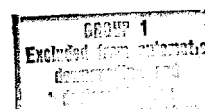
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3. The Plans and Development Staff will continue to keep abreast of the DOD action in reading out their data block. At this time, however, sufficient information is not available as to the quantity of the DOD material that will be received by the Center for readout. Inquiries are currently being made to the various DOD components concerning any action they are taking or propose taking in building automated data block readers. If, after additional investigation, it appears that a sufficient quantity of the DOD material is to be received by the Center, and no action is taken by the DOD in building an automatic data block reader, a recommendation will be made by the PADS to undertake the development of an automated data block reader for this system.

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4. [] of TID was consulted concerning the views of his people on this problem and agreed with the views of P&DS people. It is anticipated that only a small number of data blocks will have to be read for mensuration or evaluation purposes and these could easily be manually translated with the [] device or simply read directly with a magnifying viewer. [] further agreed that a requirement for automated data block reading could only be established through knowledge of the quantity of material to be delivered at NPIC.

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[]

Chief, Development Branch, P&DS

Distribution:

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NPIC/P&DS/DB: [] (14 September 1964)

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